

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRETOR 03751 040958Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EUR-12 INR-10 SP-02 CIAE-00
NSCE-00 DODE-00 IO-13 /063 W
-----016895 041122Z /12-S

R 040810Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1612
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 3751

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PDEV, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: COMMENTS BY BRITISH ARMY OFFICER

REF: PRETORIA 3539

1. EMBASSY PRETORIA POLCON HAD DINNER IN SALISBURY
JUNE 15 WITH BRITISH ARMY COLONEL JEREMY REILLY. REFTTEL
REPORTED MAJOR ASPECTS OF REILLY'S OFFICIAL REPORT ON HIS
10-DAY INVESTIGATION OF THE SECURITY SITUATION. FOLLOWING
ARE SEVERAL ADDITIONAL COMMENTS MADE BY REILLY.

2. REILLY, WHO IS AN AIDE TO LORD CARVER, SAID THAT, WHILE
BOTH SITHOLE'S AND MUZOREWA'S ORGANIZATIONS WERE PARTI-
CIPATING IN THE EFFORT TO TURN AROUND GUERRILLAS, THE
FORMER WAS MAKING THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTION. REILLY
THOUGHT THAT THE PROGRAM AIMED AT BRINGING THE
GUERRILLAS IN WAS A PROMISING ONE BUT NEEDED FIVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRETOR 03751 040958Z

YEARS RATHER THAN A FEW MONTHS TO ACHIEVE. REILLY
THOUGHT THAT MOST OF THE FIVE TO SIX THOUSAND GUERRILLAS
IN THE COUNTRY WERE INACTIVE AND TOOK FEW CHANCES,
CONCENTRATING INSTEAD ON SOFT TARGETS. MANY GUERRILLA
UNITS, HE BELIEVED, HAD TURNED INTO BRIGANDS AND EVEN
IF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT JOINED IN THE SETTLEMENT IT
WOULD BE SOMETIME BEFORE SECURITY COULD BE RESTORED

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

3. ACCORDING TO REILLY, THE RHODESIAN MILITARY BELIEVES IN A DUAL APPROACH INCLUDING EFFORTS TO WIN THE GUERRILLAS OVER WITH BLANDISHMENTS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME HITTING THEM HARD MILITARILY. HE BELIEVED MORALE WAS REASONABLY GOOD IN THE RHODESIAN MILITARY, BUT HE WAS SURPRISED AT THE NUMBER OF EXPATRIATE OFFICERS AND NCO'S THE OFFICERS ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE FUTURE BUT COMMITTED TO MAKING THE INTERNAL AGREEMENT WORK. IN PARTICULAR, HE SAID, THEY ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO MEETING THE DEC. 31 INDEPENDENCE TARGET DATE. THE MILITARY, HE SAID, VERY MUCH WANT NKOMO BACK BUT ARE NOT SURE HOW IT CAN BE DONE. MILITARY OFFICERS DREAD THE IDEA OF A MUZOREWA-LED GOVERNMENT, BELIEVING IT WOULD BE GROSSLY INEPT.

4. REILLY SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN A RECENT CUT-BACK IN THE CALL-UP TIME FOR WHITE CITIZENS. THIS WAS A RESULT PRIMARILY OF THE CONTINUED RECRUITMENT OF MORE BLACKS. REILLY WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE ENORMOUS COST OF THE WAR EFFORT AND SPECULATED THAT THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT MUST BE BORROWING HEAVILY FROM SOUTH AFRICA.
EDMONDSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMISTICE, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRETOR03751
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780275-0391
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780797/aaaadehs.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7bd7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PRETORIA 3539
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2122435
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: COMMENTS BY BRITISH ARMY OFFICER
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PDEV, RH
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7bd7c7b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014